

**AGENDA ITEM:** Special Services Program - Literacy

**ISSUES TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD AT THIS MEETING:**

1. Consider additional 2003/04 California Library Literacy Service (CLLS) funding.
2. Consider additional 2003/04 Families For Literacy (FFL) funding.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD:** I move that the Library of California Board direct its Chief Executive Officer to seek additional fiscal year 2003/04 local assistance funding in the amount of \$5,000,000 for the CLSA Special Services – California Library Literacy Service program.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD:** I move that the Library of California Board direct its Chief Executive Officer to seek additional fiscal year 2003/04 funding in the amount of \$500,000 for the CLSA Special Services - Families For Literacy program.

**ISSUE 1:** Additional 2003/04 California Library Literacy Service (CLLS) funding.

**BACKGROUND:**

The preliminary 2002/03 CLSA local assistance budget contains an allocation of \$4.090 million for the support of adult literacy services under the California Library Literacy Service (CLLS) as defined in Statutes (Chapter 1095, Statutes of 1992). This amount is sufficient to support all 14 existing 2nd through 5th year CLLS programs at the levels defined in statute. The current allocation is not sufficient to justify the initiation of adult literacy services in any new library jurisdictions. The current allocation is sufficient to permit state to local matching of financial resources at an estimated \$1 to \$6.00 ratio, or approximately 17% state match for local programs in their 6th and subsequent years of operation. The law provides for a one to one match of one State dollar for each dollar raised locally. In FY 2001/02, local adult literacy services in the matching formula received approximately \$1 for each \$6.14 raised, or 16% match.

In FY 2003/04 nine programs will be continuing literacy services in years 2-5 totaling \$830,587. If no new programs begin library-based adult literacy services that fiscal year, an additional \$5,000,000 to the CLLS appropriation would allow for an estimated 50% state match as authorized by the Board in May 2002. However, this is still less than the 100% state match for which the law provides.

## **ISSUE 2:** Additional 2003/04 Families For Literacy (FFL) funding.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The preliminary 2002/03 CLSA local assistance budget as adopted by the Board in August 2001 contained an allocation of \$1,384,000 for the support of Special Services - Families For Literacy (FFL) Program as defined in Statutes (Chapter 1350, Statutes of 1987). This amount is sufficient to minimally support all 78 programs that applied for FFL funding in fiscal year 2002/03; however, requests for 2002/03 fiscal year totaled nearly \$1.8 million. An additional \$500,000 is needed to fully fund all 78 programs that applied for grants this year.

### **GENERAL OVERALL PROGRAM UPDATES:**

**CURRENT STATUS:** CLSA Special Services Program activities are organized in two current components: 1) activities undertaken to implement Library of California Board priorities for emphasizing services to the underserved in other CLSA Programs (e.g., System Reference); and, 2) services supported with funds allocated to the CLSA Special Services Program, currently the library-centered adult literacy services known as the California Library Literacy Service (CLLS), and the Families for Literacy Program (FFL). These programs together are known as the California Literacy Campaign (CLC).

At its February 2002 meeting the LoCB directed its Chief Executive Officer to allocate 2002/03 California Library Literacy Service Act funds to local programs in accordance with the provisions of Section 18733.2 of the Education Code. The preliminary 2002/03 CLSA Local Assistance Budget as adopted by the Board in August 2001 appropriated a total of \$4,090,000 to implement the CLLS component of the CLSA Special Services Program in the 2002/03 fiscal year.

In accordance with the LoCB February action the Chief Executive Officer announced projected awards totaling \$1,275,745 to local CLLS programs in the 2nd through 5th years of operation based on the funding formula established in Section 18733.2 of the Education Code. A complete list of these local CLLS programs and the proposed amounts to be awarded appears as Exhibit A to this agenda item.

The remainder of the CLLS budget \$2,814,255, will be awarded to 6th and subsequent year CLLS programs on a matching basis with local public and private financial support for CLLS programs, as required by the Act. Based on estimates of funds available locally, the ratio of State to local funds for 2002/03 will be about \$1 state to \$6.00 local, or approximately 17% state match. Certifications for the matching funds process are due at the State Library on September 30, 2002.

Also at its February 2002 meeting the Library of California Board directed its Chief

Executive Officer to allocate 2002/03 Families For Literacy funds to local participants based on the criteria contained in the Families for Literacy application materials and prior program performance, where applicable. 79 applicants, of which 2 are new to FFL, requested a total amount of \$1,753,770. A complete list of local programs and the requested amounts appears as Exhibit B to this agenda item.

Because of the limited resources available to existing FFL programs, CSL staff continue to develop public/private partnerships in order to supplement the funds provided by CLSA. These efforts have been especially successful in regards to developing sources for the gift books so essential to the FFL programs.

Exhibit C contains additional information based on the findings of the 3 year longitudinal study of families in FFL programs that is still in progress.

Local Wal-Mart® stores have become new partners, contributing \$1,000 grants to local library literacy services in over 30 jurisdictions. In addition, many referrals for both learners and volunteers have come through the new Wal-Mart® literacy hotline.

**RELATED ISSUE TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD IN THE FUTURE:** Review of 2001/02 Special Services Program achievements in November.

Relevant Committee: Literacy

Staff Liaisons: Cindy Costales/Cindy Tackett